And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's Mightiest Heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born, to fight the foes no single super hero could withstand!

THE NEW AVENGERS

Previously in New Avengers

The shape-shifting alien race known as the Skrulls has invaded Earth. First they deployed a well-planned Secret Invasion using their shape-shifting ability to seed mistrust among the Avengers and other heroes around the world.

Now they have struck fast and hard, setting up camp and making their intentions clear. The Earth is now part of the Skrull Empire.

Even though they've escaped the traps set for them, Earth's heroes, including the Avengers, have been defeated both mentally and physically. They didn't even know the extent of the invasion or which of them was – or could still be -- a Skrull agent.

Among the casualties of the growing paranoia is the marriage of Avenger Luke Cage and Jessica Jones. Worried for the safety of their child, Jessica seeks shelter at Avengers Tower, under the watchful eye of Stark's butler, Jarvis, to wait out the worst of it.

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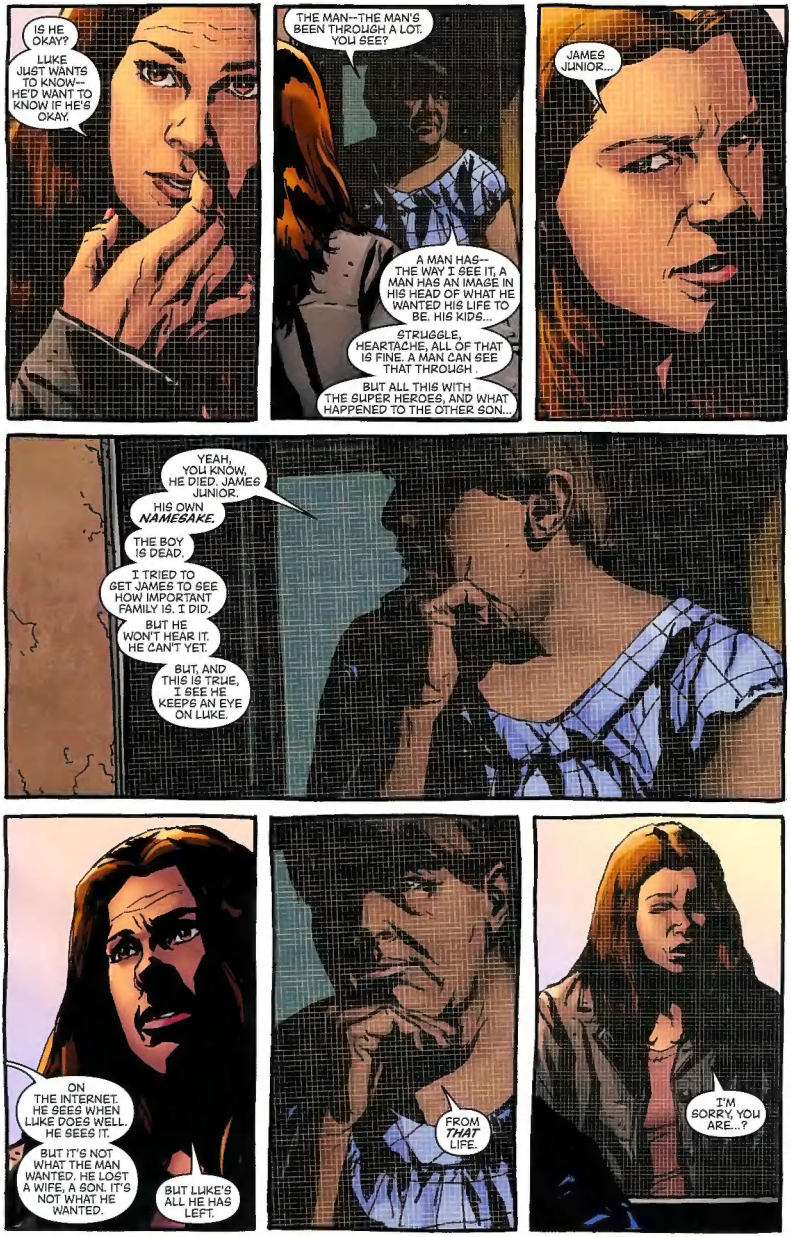
IT'S JUST POOP, MISTER CAGE.
IT'S GREEN.
BABIES POOP GREEN.
AND YELLOW.
YEP.
HOW CAN IT BE GREEN AND YELLOW?!
AIN'T IT SOMETHING.
NO ONE TOLD ME ABOUT THIS.
BABIES POOP.
WHAT DO I DO WITH IT NOW?
PICK HER UP AND BURP HER, SING TO HER.
I DON'T SING.
BABY ISN'T GOING TO JUDGE YOU.
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HER NOW?
I LOVE HOW YOU ACT LIKE I HAVE ALL THIS BABY EXPERIENCE.
FIRST DAY YOU MET HER WAS THE FIRST DAY I MET HER.
I THINK SHE WANTS YOU.
YOU'RE SCARED OF HER.
I AIN'T SCARED.
YOU'VE FOUGHT DOCTOR DOOM.
I AIN'T SCARED.
WHAT'S IT DOING NOW?

"I" HAS FEMALE PRIVATE PARTS SO WE'RE GOING TO CALL IT A SHE FROM NOW ON.
OKAY.
YOU DON'T WANT TO GIVE HER ANY MORE OF A COMPLEX THAN THE ONE SHE'S GOING TO GET WHEN SHE SEES PICTURES OF US IN OUR OLD HERO COSTUMES.
TALK TO HER. BOUNCE HER.
TELL HER A STORY SHE NEEDS TO HEAR YOUR VOICE.
SHE NEEDS TO KNOW WHO YOU ARE. SHE NEEDS TO FEEL SAFE.
YEAH, OKAY.
OKAY, BABY.
UH...
I'M GOING TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE TIME ME AND YOUR MOMMY FIRST MET.
ALREADY TOLD HER.
OKAY. HOW ABOUT THE FIRST TIME WE FOUGHT A--
ALREADY TOLD HER.
HOW ABOUT THE TIME WE--
THAT YOU NEVER TELL HER.
OKAY. HOW ABOUT I TELL YOU ABOUT THE DAY I FELL IN LOVE WITH YOUR MOTHER.
YOU FELL IN LOVE WITH ME THAT FIRST DAY WE MET.
NO, YOU FELL IN LOVE WITH ME THE FIRST DAY WE MET.
I RESERVED JUDGEMENT.
OH, REALLY...
OKAY, SO, WHEN COPS, FIREMEN, AMBULANCES ARE TRYING TO GET WHERE THEY NEED TO GO...
OTHER CARS ARE SUPPOSED TO PULL OVER AND LET THEM GET BY...
BUT SOMETIMES THEY DON'T--
SOMETIMES PEOPLE ACTUALLY THINK THE @#$% PLACE THEY ARE GOING IS ACTUALLY MORE IMPORTANT THAN FIREMEN GOING TO A FIRE.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA
CAN I HELP YOU?
IS JAMES LUCAS HERE?
WHO ARE YOU?!
MY NAME IS JESSICA JONES. DOES JAMES LUCAS LIVE HERE?
I...
I DON'T KNOW WHO THAT IS.
HE GOES BY THE NAME JAMES GEARY NOW.
BUT IT WAS JAMES LUCAS.
PLEASE...

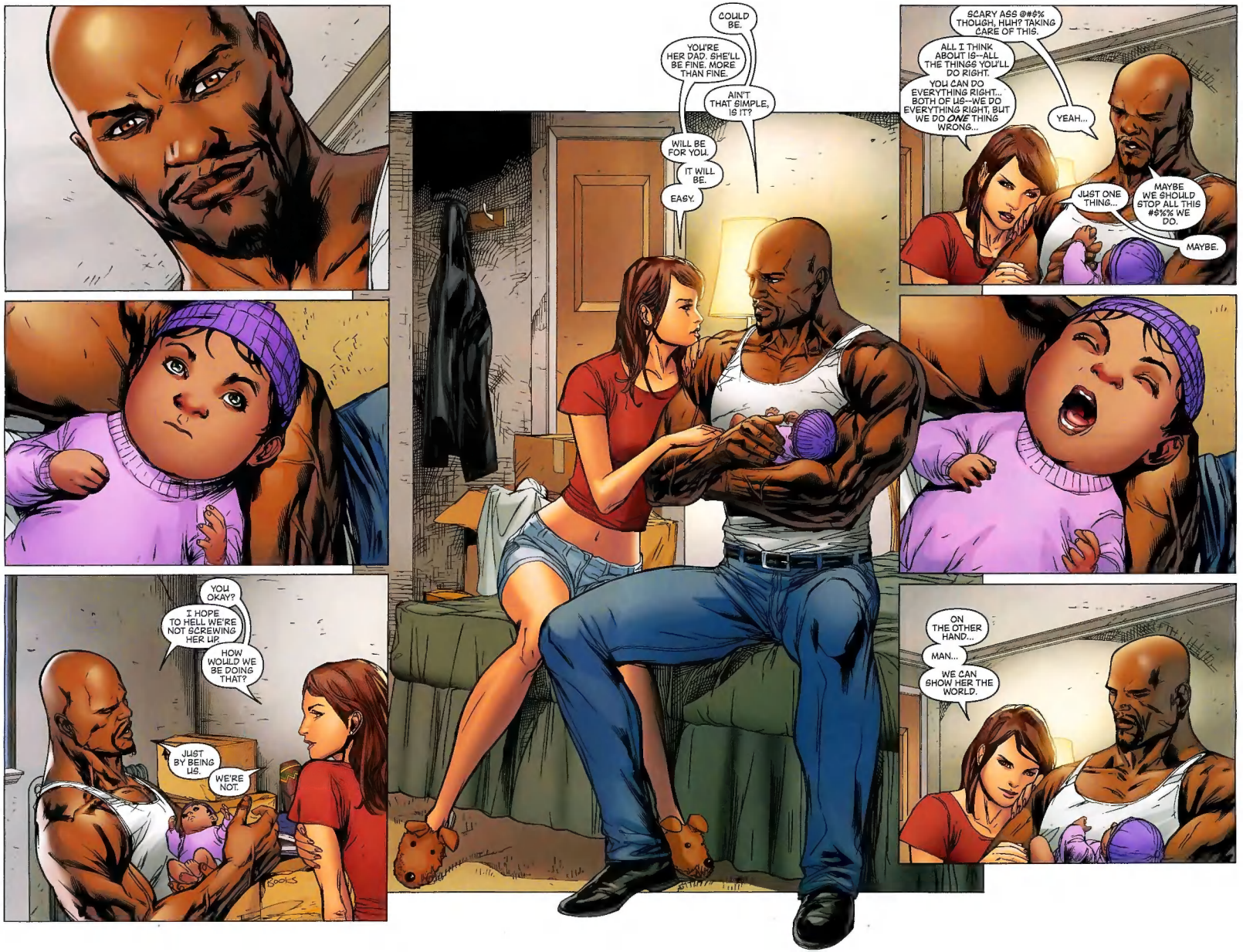
WHO ARE YOU?!
MY NAME IS JESSICA JONES. I'M A PRIVATE DE--
YOU GOT TO BE KIDDING ME.
DETECTIVE. I'M NOT HERE TO--
YOU LISTEN TO ME. I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ANYTHING.
YOU HEAR ME?! I'LL CALL THE COPS. I'LL CALL THE--
I'M HERE BECAUSE OF HIS SON, LUKE...
LUKE CAGE...
HE'S LOOKING FOR HIS FATHER.
I'M NOT HERE TO DO ANYTHING-- I'M HERE TO TRY AND HELP.
SON JUST WANTS TO TALK TO HIS FATHER.
WELL, THE FATHER DON'T WANT TO TALK TO THE SON.


IS HE OKAY?
LUKE JUST WANTS TO KNOW--HE'D WANT TO KNOW IF HE'S OKAY.
THE MAN--THE MAN'S BEEN THROUGH A LOT. YOU SEE?
A MAN HAS--THE WAY I SEE IT, A MAN HAS AN IMAGE IN HIS HEAD OF WHAT HE WANTED HIS LIFE TO BE. HIS KIDS...
STRUGGLE, HEARTACHE, ALL OF THAT IS FINE. A MAN CAN SEE THAT THROUGH.
BUT ALL THIS WITH THE SUPER HEROES, AND WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHER SON...
JAMES JUNIOR...
YEAH, YOU KNOW, HE DIED. JAMES JUNIOR.
HIS OWN NAMESAKE.
THE BOY IS DEAD.
I TRIED TO GET JAMES TO SEE HOW IMPORTANT FAMILY IS. I DID.
BUT HE WON'T HEAR IT. HE CAN'T YET.
BUT, AND THIS IS TRUE, I SEE HE KEEPS AN EYE ON LUKE.
ON THE INTERNET. HE SEES WHEN LUKE DOES WELL. HE SEES IT.
BUT IT'S NOT WHAT THE MAN WANTED. HE LOST A WIFE, A SON. IT'S NOT WHAT HE WANTED.
BUT LUKE'S ALL HE HAS LEFT.
FROM THAT LIFE.
I'M SORRY, YOU ARE...?

I'M HIS WIFE.
OH, I--I DIDN'T--*THAT* I DIDN'T KNOW.
FOR ABOUT A YEAR.
WE MET AT CHURCH.
I FOUND OUT ABOUT ALL THIS WITH HIS SON JUST RECENTLY, REALLY. NOT EVEN A MONTH AGO.
YOU GOTTA-- A MAN LIKE MY HUSBAND-- YOU GOT TO LET HIM GO AT HIS OWN PACE.
IF THERE IS TO BE ANY KIND OF RECONCILIATION, HE'S GOT TO DECIDE TO DO IT.
NO ONE OR NO THING IS GOING TO MAKE HIM.
OKAY, WELL, YEAH...
CAN YOU TELL HIM WE WERE HERE?
WE?

PA...?

MAYBE ONE DAY...


COULD BE.
YOU'RE HER DAD. SHE'LL BE FINE. MORE THAN FINE.
AIN'T THAT SIMPLE, IS IT?
WILL BE FOR YOU.
IT WILL BE.
EASY.
SCARY ASS @#$% THOUGH, HUH? TAKING CARE OF THIS.
ALL I THINK ABOUT IS--ALL THE THINGS YOU'LL DO RIGHT.
YOU CAN DO EVERYTHING RIGHT... BOTH OF US--WE DO EVERYTHING RIGHT, BUT WE DO ONE THING WRONG...
YEAH...
JUST ONE THING...
MAYBE WE SHOULD STOP ALL THIS #$%% WE DO.
MAYBE.
YOU OKAY?
I HOPE TO HELL WE'RE NOT SCREWING HER UP.
HOW WOULD WE BE DOING THAT?
JUST BY BEING US.
WE'RE NOT.
ON THE OTHER HAND...
MAN...
WE CAN SHOW HER THE WORLD.

CENTRAL PARK, TODAY
OH GOD!
NO!
JESSICA!
THE HELL?
WHERE IS SHE GOING?!
THE HELL HAPPENED?
GO! GO!
WHAT THE HELL, JESS?!
THE BABY, LUKE.
THEY TOOK OUR BABY!
WHAT?
JARVIS. THE JARVIS THAT WAS HERE.
IT WAS ONE OF THEM!! ONE OF THE SKRULLS! AND--AND I GAVE HIM THE BABY!
AND NOW--AND NOW...

NEXT ISSUE: DARK REIGN